53†Rec'd 7 /PTT 25 MAY 2001

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

EMARK OFFICE / /-2

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

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HIROSHI YAMAKAWA : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN

(Based on PCT /JP00/06518)

FILED: HEREWITH : EXAMINER:

FOR: BENDING APPARATUS FOR

GLASS SHEET AND METHOD OF

BENDING GLASS SHEET

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 3. (Amended) The bending apparatus for at least one glass sheet according to Claim 1, wherein the second group of heating elements are suspended from a ceiling inner wall of the heating furnace at a position opposed to the upper surface of the glass sheet.
- 4. (Amended) The bending apparatus for at least one glass sheet according to Claim 1, wherein a distance between the second group of heating elements and the inner wall surface of the heating furnace is variable.

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